Next GARS meeting on August 10 @ 7:00 p.m. Portable Antennas

GARzeffe

The official newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society — Aug 2010 http://www.gars.org/ Volume 19, Issue 7

August GARS Meeting will be held at Gwinnett County Fire Headquarters! 408 Hurricane Shoals Road NE

The program will be an Antenna Raising demo, by

Paul Branson, KA4YZR. Additionally, Newt White, K0NWT will be sharing his recent adventure in Ham radio, that took place in Israel.

While outside, we'll have a "show and tell" as several members show off a variety of portable HF antennas and mounts.

This will be an interesting evening and we hope to see each of you there!



GARS would like to thanks Robert Tyler, KF4VBR, for his presentation on "Linux for the Ham shack". We enjoyed learning how easy to use and cost effective it is.

GARS @ Gwinnett Braves August 26

Ralph has done it again!

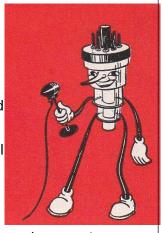
It's that time of year again. Let's visit the "Boys of Summer."

Cantinuad Daga

Look what Lighthouse Larry has this month! ...Brian R. Page, N4TRB

Back near the beginning of time, around 1946, the Electronic Tube Division of General Electric faced the challenge of spreading the word about its new tubes & techniques to engineers and

technicians. Since, at that time, it could be safely assumed that all real electrical engineers and service techni-



cians were also amateur radio operators, the technical staff of the Tube Division came up with the idea of a publication aimed at hams as the vehicle to convey their new developments. The result was G-E Ham News which first appeared in 1946 and continued right through until 1963 when, I suspect, the growing popularity of that new-fangled device, the transistor, took its toll on vacuum tube innovation.

G-E Ham News appeared bi-monthly and was usually 8-pages in length, although

A note from the President

The August 10th GARS meeting is at the Gwinnett Fire Station Headquarters at the corner of Hosea and Hurricane Shoals roads in Lawrenceville. That is near Briscoe Field airport just off 316 and is where Gwinnett ARES used to meet a few years back. Please help spread the word because we want to make sure everyone comes out to the great meeting we have planned.

Speaking of great, I am really excited about the August meeting. We will have demonstrations on several portable HF antennas and portable masts. Whether you are into emcomm, QRP, antenna building, mobile operations, or just a plain-ole rag-chewer, this meeting is



for you. Since you are in amateur radio, you will need to put up a portable HF antenna at some point. Come on out and join us. Hopefully you will learn something and have fun at the same time.

Many of us are still riding the high we got from Field Day. Most of us use the GARS repeaters. Hopefully you come to the meetings and enjoy winning door prizes. We have a great meeting location in the big room in the church, and we use that for TechFest. All of these things cost money, and we try to keep the dues low. To do that, twice a year GARS, in cooperation with Gwinnett ARES, runs parking at "The Dog Show". This is our major fund raiser and it keeps us from having to do other boring and time consuming things during the year. We need your help on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday for a 4 hour shift. There is more information about this on the GARS website www.gars.org In a nutshell, you will be helping the club and getting to play radio with an HT at the same time – need I say more?

Remember we have two nets running on the GARS repeater system. The Monday night (8pm) "Want, Sell, Swap, and Information Net" is a great one for club news. The Wednesday night (9pm) "Round Table Net" is a net where we discuss all kinds of topics and issues important to amateur radio operators every week. We link our repeaters together, so if you can hit the GARS 2m or 6m repeater you can check into the net.

73, Kyle W4KDA

My multiband dipole which should work with the tuner in the rig. ...Norm, WA4ZXV

After helping put up Eddie's multi-band dipole serveral times, I figured I needed one also. So I borrowed Eddies and went to it. I used his measurements, but decided to use wire and connectors I had on hand. The center connector is a piece of wood I had in the shack. The wire is about 18 gauge cloth coated wire from the junk box. I drilled the hole for the SO239 and a place to tie off the wires. I used rope as a strain relief. The connectors between each band are 1/4" spades the ones I had plenty of had plastic covers, but I'm sure that wasn't important. The insulators between sections are rope. The whole thing, 80,40,20,10 meters is rolled up on a cord reel. I should probably add 50 ft or so of coax and some string for hanging to make it easier to find the pieces if I needed to deploy.

Photos on Page 7

Net Managers Report ... Joel Barrett, W4JOL

Our 2m GARS Want, Sell, Swap, and Info Net has been consistent with about 30 attendees each Monday evening. Details for each net are now posted on www.gars.org. Scroll to the bottom of the menu on the left and click on "2m Net Control Stations". Once the spreadsheet shows, click on "GARS 2M Chart" at the bottom to see a graph of attendance. We have five people who graciously and professionally volunteer their time to be our Net Control Stations:

Hal W4IGE, John WB4QDX, Susan AF4FO, Sandy KJ4DRO, and Ken KI4BQS

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy out-door activities and have an interest in radio technology, Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
 - Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Church, 85 Gloster Rd. NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month. We enjoy:
 - o Camping
 - o Hiking
 - o Horse Back Riding
 - o Shooting Sports
- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of amateur radio.
- For more information, either show up at our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY, Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

o Phone: 770-712-9069

o Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL, Venture Crew 73 Advisor

o Phone: 678-475-3165

o Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org

We certainly would not have the weekly net without their commitment and appreciate everything they do to keep us on the air!

On occasion, we have others who step in when the NCS position is open and, of course, we have additional volunteers who act as Alternate NCS (ANCS) almost every Monday evening. We are still searching for a sixth NCS to fill an open position and will consider all applicants. If you are interested in becoming a Net Control Station, please contact Joel Barrett, W4JOL at w4jol@arrl.net or joel@brainslap.com.

Being an NCS is a great way to improve your ham radio communication skills and get to know every amateur radio operator in and around Gwinnett county!

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Joel Barrett, W4JOL GARS Net Manager

On the World Wide Web ...de ND4V

What do King Juan Carlos, Queen Noor, Priscilla Presley (wife of the King) have in common? Give you a hint, they share a hobby with Marlon Brando, Andy Devine, Arthur Godfrey, Ronnie Milsap, Joe Walsh, Chet Atkins, Freeman Gosden (Amos of Amos and Andy) and Peggy Sue (Gerron) yes, that Peggy Sue!

I'm sure you have it by now But just in case, Herbert Hoover Jr. and Barry Goldwater are on the list

Right! They hold (or did hold) ham radio licenses.

For a well researched list of famous hams here is a great link

http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=2523

Ever need to print up just a few QSL cards ... say from an afternoon of portable operation at Green County? Take a look at this site

http://www.radioqth.net/qsl.aspx



Need an extra copy of your ham license? Of course your license is the FCC grant and not the piece of paper. But the piece of paper can be handy – say when you're taking gear through security at the airport.

Check out this website: http://www.ae7q.net/Generate.php

73 and keep on surfing, Mike

TechFest 2011

January 8, 2011, Lawrenceville, GA sponsored by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

July 2010 GARS General Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2010

- 1. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
- 2. Introductions of first time visitors and others present were made.
- 3. Business:
 - a. Treasurer's Report Hal Collier, W4IGE, reported the following:
 - i. CD balance \$6201.27
 - ii. Money Market balance \$2120.05
 - iii. Checking Account balance \$4,854.80
 - iv. Total \$13,176.12
- 4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Membership Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, reported no new applications for membership:
 - b. VE Team Report Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reported the following:
 - c. VE session at Field Day yielded 11-12 new techs and several general and extra up grades.
- 5. Hal Collier, W4IGE, gave a break down of QSOs and points earned at field day.
- 6. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced that the August GARS meeting will be held at the Gwinnett County Fire Headquarters located at 408 Hurricane Shoals Road, N.E., Lawrenceville, GA
- 7 Break
- 8. Robert Tyler, KF4VBR, gave a presentation on Linux for Hams.
- 9. Prize drawing.

Continued from 1 Lighthouse Larry

an occasional 12-page issue sprouted when a particularly ambitious project required the extra space. Since I have an interest in radio history, over the years I had gradually acquired a handful issues and, before I knew it, I had nearly the complete set. Thinking that other history-minded hams might appreciate having access to these little snapshots of ham history, early this year I embarked on a project to scan every single issue for posting on the Internet. It took several months and as I completed the project I realized that I had not only done a lot of scanning, I had also taken a walk through our history. Scanning forced me to look at literally every single page General Electric published in the 17-year run.

The first editor of Ham News was a fellow whose real name was George Henry Floyd, Jr., WA4DGA (ex-W2RYT). Floyd was an engineer and executive at General Electric. He was born in 1917 and just recently passed away in 2008 at the age of 91. The name George Floyd may not mean much to most hams nowadays, but to old-timers he was much better knows as "Hashafisti Scratchi," columnist of CQ magazine. Hashafisti Scratchi's satirical columns were, what we would characterized today, very politically incorrect. Floyd's identity as Hashafisti was not revealed until his death!

In any event, Floyd must have had a penchant for alter egos, because the "editor" of G-E Ham News was "Lighthouse Larry," lighthouse being a synonym for a glowing vacuum tube. Editorial responsibilities changed hands over the years, but the Lighthouse Larry cartoon figure remained at his post.

The various issues of G-E Ham News are fascinating not only to observe the evolution of the technical content, but also as a peek at post-war ham radio culture. For instance, early issues carried details of operating awards still familiar to us, like Worked All States (WAS), and DX Century Club (DXCC), along with ones that have disappeared, like Worked the British Empire (WBE), and British Empire Radio Transmission Award (BERTA). Even the issues which served as country checklists proved interesting. For instance, you can find places such as Little America (KC4), Goa (CR8, Portuguese India), Belgian Congo (OQ), French Cameroons (FE8), and British Somaliland (VQ6), from the fading days of European colonialism.

The technical insights are, of course, intriguing too. The projects rotated amongst amplifiers, transmitters, amplifiers, receivers, amplifiers, oscillators, more amplifiers, and station accessories, followed by even more amplifiers. I guess the amplifier theme shouldn't be a surprise considering that Ham News was, after all, published by the Tube Division! One gets the impression that a low powerig was only 200 watts and real hams ran half a kilowatt or nothing at all. In truth, it was

Continued Lighthouse Larry

interesting to look over these amplifier circuits. The component count for the 1948 "Economy Half-Kilowatt" consisted of only 30 parts. That lean & mean rig would give you 500 watts on two bands with only two tubes! Who could resist?

I'm exaggerating a bit on the amplifier obsession since the real agenda of Ham News was introducing new technology, not just promoting high-power tubes. Thus, Ham News was the place to turn for cutting-edge practical design information on that new phone mode, Single Side-Band (SSB), as well as UHF operation on 432 megacycles (now called MHz), Variable Frequency Oscillators (VFOs, as they began to replace crystals), emergency communications for Civil Defense (compact portable rigs, often for 6-meter operation), Television Interference (TVI) suppression (as TV ownership exploded in the 1950s), and even the increasingly popular mobile operation.

In 1952, General Electric announced the annual Edison Award to recognize the "many vital and humane public services performed by radio amateurs" and Ham News carried the results. The first winner was Don Mullican, W5PHP, for service following devastating tornadoes in Arkansas. "Traffic to and from the nation was funnelled through his ARC-5 [a WW II surplus rig] on 75 meters" continuously for five days. Other winners were recognized for traffic handling, including messages for arctic & Antarctic personnel (remember Operation Deepfreeze?). The photographs accompanying the award announcements are classic.

The final aspect of this scanning project proved to be poignant. Occasionally my copies of the various issues had margin doodles and even a coffee cup stain where the volume was used as a coaster. It's fun to imagine the original owner perusing the latest news from GE and perhaps daydreaming of a construction project (an amplifier, of course), and setting his (it would almost certainly have been a male) coffee cup down for a moment to pick up his mic. These incidentals erased the intervening years. It was as if that long forgotten ham had just handed me the latest news, saying, "Look what Lighthouse Larry has this month!"

Local Hams help out with the National Scout Jamboree ...From the ARRL Newsletter

The National Scout Jamboree takes place July 26-August 4 at Fort AP Hill, Caroline County, Virginia. A myriad of exhibits and activities await the close to 40,000 Scouts, leaders and staff. Coming from all 50 states, territories and foreign countries, they will have the opportunity to live, work and play together in an atmosphere of Scouting fellowship. And just like the National Scout Jamborees in 1973, 1981, 1985, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001 and 2005, the 2010 event will feature Amateur Radio.

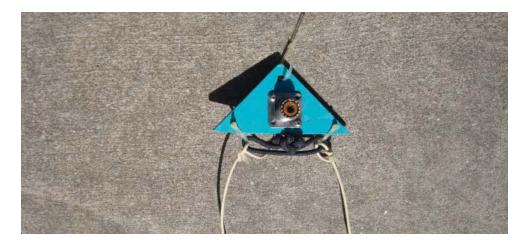
A team of 17 Scouters and two Scouts will activate K2BSA as a demonstration station at the Jamboree. According to K2BSA Staff Member Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, they will be demonstrating various operating modes to the visiting Scouts, with activity primarily on HF, around the published Scout frequencies. Wolfgang is the ARRL Liaison to the National Scout Jamboree. Another group of 17 Scouters and one Scout will assist other Scouts in earning the Radio merit badge, while seven Scouters will be offering classes and will help administer Amateur Radio licensing exams.

K2BSA will also operate an EchoLink station at the Jamboree on 444.425 MHz simplex, with a CTCSS tone of 100 Hz on the Jamboree equipment. The EchoLink node number is 307770 and the IRLP node number is 3011.

"We will also be on the air via D-STAR from the Jamboree site," Wolfgang said. "We will be using the WS4VA 2 meter repeater (145.320 MHz, -600 kHz split), located 35 miles north of us in Stafford, Virginia, which in turn will be connected to D-STAR Reflector 30B." The K2BSA repeaters will operate on 145.17 MHz, with a -600 kHz shift and 442.90 MHz with a +5 MHz shift; use a 100.0 Hz CTCSS subtone for both repeaters. There will be a Jamboree Net at 1900 (local time) each evening.

Some K2BSA staff will be equipped with APRS. Click here for to view APRS activity at the National Jamboree.

The K2BSA staff would like to thank ICOM America for the generous loan of some D-STAR equipment, the Stafford (Virginia) Area Radio Association (SARA) and SARA Trustee Emmett Price, K3EP, for the dedicated use of one of their D-STAR repeaters, as well as Gateway, Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, and John Davis, WB4QDX, for the use of D-STAR reflector 30B. K2BSA also thanks the following companies and individuals for their assistance with their operation at the Jamboree: Array Solutions (W3NQN Bandpass Filters), Buckmaster, Cushcraft, Flex Radio, Heil Sound, HRO in Woodbridge, Virginia, Hy-Gain, MFJ, QuickSilver Radio Products, Steve Gwilliam, G8XGG, Ten-Tec and









GARS officers and committee chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG

Vice President

Hal Collier, W4IGE Secretary

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC Treasurer Apparel Manager

Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO Program Manager

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN Membership Chairman

David Adcock, KA4KKF Webmaster Field Day Chairman

Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ

Public Information Officer

Norm Sckhlar, WA4ZXV TechFest Chairman

Jim Massara, N2EST GARzette Editor

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM Repeater Chairman

Mike Weathers, ND4V WAS-Checker

Joel Barrett, W4JOL Net Manager

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI Technical Advisor

Dave Bruse, W4DTR VE Team

GARS communication system

70 Cm Repeater 444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

APRS 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR

6 Meter Repeater 53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone

D-Star WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater 147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site Lanier Mountain, Snellville Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule.

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not reponsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org.

First Saturday, Even Months 9 a.m.

EOC Building Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7 p.m.

ARRL/VEC

Roberts School

4681 School Street, Acworth

Jodi Escher AG4BK

(770) 387-1591

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC

8:30 a.m.

Stone Mountain Methodist Church

5312 West Mountain St.

Stone Mountain

Bob Varone, W4ETN

(770) 978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC

9 a.m.

Marietta First United Meth. Church

Room 305,

56 Whitlock Ave.

Marietta

David Still, WB4RRD

(707)973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7 p.m.

United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Rd.

Douglasville

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC

3-5 p.m.

We had six VEs and four applicants on April 18.

VEs present included Frank Sauciunas, KF4TQV; David Bruse, W4DTR; Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN; John Kludt, K7SYS; Royce Stovall, KD4EXY; and Brian Page, N4TRB.

Test results: one new Technician, two upgrades to General, one upgrade to Extra.

These tests are given at 3:00 p.m. on the third Sunday of every month except December.

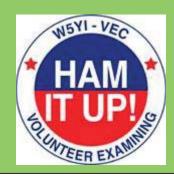
If you want to take a test, you shoud bring a photo ID (e.g. driver's license, student ID, etc.), your original license (if you have one) and a copy of the license, as well as original CSCE and copy for prior elements passed. Minors must have two forms of ID and a Social Security number. Be sure to bring a pen and pencil with eraser, a calculator with its memory cleared, and an exam fee of \$14 cash (checks are not accepted). Walk-ins are welcome. No pre-registration is required.

Frank Sauciunas, KF4TQV Webmaster: Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge No. 131

Lodge web page: http://lvlodge131.org

Email: kf4tqv@charter.net

http://webpages.charter.net/kf4tqv



Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge 465 S. Perry St. Lawrenceville, GA 30044 (770-963-5721

Fourth Sunday
2:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech
VanLeer Elec. Building
Rm. W218
77 Atlantic Dr.
www.w4aql.com

Alexander G. Carver (404)894-2936

acarver@ece.gatech.edu

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Southern Polytechnic State University Meeting begins at 7:30 PM Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30 PM Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30 PM Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0

Second Thursday
Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist
Church
Intersection of Annistown
Rd & Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday
North Fulton Amateur Radio
League
Masonic Lodge
194 Milton Avenue
Alpharetta, Georgia
meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

GARS APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME:	PHONE			
CALL:	(To avoid errors, please PRINT legibly)			
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:				
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TOTAL ORDER PRICE:

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC or mail to:

GARS, P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may

GARS night at the Gwinnett Braves.

Thursday, August 26th, 2010 @ Gwinnett's Coolray Stadium

Gwinnett Braves vs. Durham Bulls

Tickets are: \$8.00 ea. (Parking, Food and Beverages not included)

We've reserved a block of seats in section 113 (in the shade)

You can order your tickets through the PayPal link on the GARS homepage (www.GARS. org) or at our next club meeting.

Look forward to seeing you there.





Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society PO Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GARS USE ONLY				
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Applicant Signature	Date//

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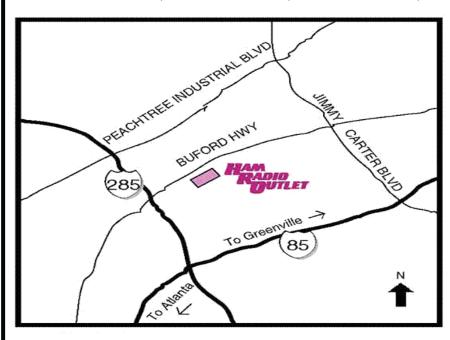


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Heil Ameritron
Comet

August 2010

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Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048





GARS cups for door prize were furnished by "Pat's Hats". That's Pat and other half Rich Arland. Pat is printing these mugs as part of her monogramed ham gear business. Interested? Contact Pat Arland kb3mct@live.com

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Check the website for location.
- Every Monday at 8 p.m.: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater.
- Every Wednesday at 9 p.m.: GARS 6-meter net on the GARS 6-meter.
- Every Saturday at 7:30 a.m.: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville.

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References available upon request.